Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for determining a vehicle trip on a roadway, the method comprising:
providing a plurality of vehicle detections from a plurality of gateways;
determining a maximum travel time between corresponding pairs of the plurality of gateways;
correlating corresponding pairs of the plurality of vehicle detections by determining that a travel time between each of the gateways of each of the corresponding pairs of detections is less than a corresponding maximum travel time;
determining a plurality of chainable detections; and
determining the boundaries of the trip.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the providing the plurality of vehicle detections comprises providing at least one license plate image corresponding to one of the plurality of vehicle detections.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
determining a vehicle license plate number; and
processing the at least one license plate image for verifying the vehicle license plate number.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the providing ~~the~~ a plurality of vehicle detections comprises filtering a plurality of vehicle transactions for providing the plurality of vehicle detections.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the plurality of vehicle transactions includes at least one ambiguous transaction; and

further comprising eliminating at least one ambiguous transaction from the plurality ~~of~~ vehicle transactions.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the at least one ambiguous transaction includes a conflicting gateway crossing.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising eliminating dual transactions from the plurality of vehicle detections.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the correlating the corresponding ~~pair~~ pairs of the plurality of vehicle detections further comprises determining whether each of the pair of detections is provided by a corresponding pair of gateways that are disposed logically consistent with the roadway topology.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the correlating ~~the~~ corresponding ~~pair~~ pairs of the plurality of vehicle detections further comprises determining that the travel time between each of the detections is greater than a minimum travel time.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining a maximum travel time comprises determining an incident free maximum travel time.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

determining an expected travel time; and

determining that the maximum travel time is the longer of the expected travel time and the incident free maximum travel time.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:

detecting a traffic incident; and

modifying the expected travel time in response to the traffic incident.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising waiting for the plurality of chainable detections to be initially processed.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising waiting for the plurality of chainable detections to be verified.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising determining a latest time for the plurality of vehicle detections.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining the boundaries comprises detecting the end of the trip.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein detecting the end of the trip comprises:

determining a maximum detection time for the plurality of chainable detections;

determining a current boundary time;

comparing the current boundary time to the maximum detection time; and

declaring the end of the trip in response to determining that the current boundary time is greater than the maximum detection time.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining the boundaries comprises detecting ~~the~~ a start of the trip.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising forming the trip by chaining the plurality of chainable detections.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising waiting for the plurality of chainable detections to include all vehicle detections that might chain.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the waiting for the plurality of chainable detections comprises:~~all detections that might chain comprises:~~

determining a first time wherein each of the plurality of chainable detections has a first extrapolation region terminating earlier than the first time.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

determining a second time wherein each of the plurality of chainable detections occurring later than the first time has a second extrapolation region terminating earlier than the second time., ~~is evaluated for verifying.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 further including verifying ~~transactions~~ a vehicle detection from among the plurality of vehicle detections occurring between the first ~~time interval~~ and the second ~~interval~~ time using a video image of a license plate number captured at the time of the vehicle detection.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 23 wherein the verifying a vehicle detection ~~transactions~~ comprises automatically recognizing the license plate number from the video image.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 23 wherein the verifying a vehicle detection ~~transactions~~ comprises manually reading the license plate number from the video image.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of vehicle ~~transactions~~ detections is provided by at least one of:

an enforcement gateway; and

a toll gateway sensor.

27. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of vehicle detections comprises:

a time of the detection; and

the location of the detection.

28. (Currently Amended The method of claim 1 wherein the determining the boundaries of the trip comprises using at least one of:

a traffic incident; and

a set of billing policies.

29. (Original) A method for determining a vehicle trip on a roadway having a plurality of gateways disposed according to a roadway topology, the method comprising:

providing a model of the topology including gateway connectivity, a plurality of minimum travel times between pairs of gateways, and a plurality of incident free maximum travel times between pairs of gateways;

providing a plurality of vehicle detections;

providing a set of rules for applying the model;

correlating the plurality of vehicle detections by applying the rules to the plurality of vehicle detections; and

determining a plurality of chainable vehicle detections forming the trip.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising determining a plurality of expected travel times between the pairs of gateways.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30 further comprising chaining the plurality of chainable vehicle detections for forming a potential trip.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31 further comprising verifying a license plate reading corresponding to at least one of the plurality of chainable vehicle detections.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32 further comprising waiting for required verification of at least one of the plurality of chainable vehicle detections in the potential trip; and

chaining the plurality of chainable vehicle detections to form the trip.

34. (Original) A toll collection system comprising:

a plurality of gateways;

a trip determination processor comprising:

a transaction processor;

a vehicle detection correlation processor coupled to the transaction processor and adapted to determine at least one of whether a travel time between pairs of gateways is less than a corresponding maximum travel time and whether a travel time between pairs of gateways is greater than a corresponding minimum travel time;

a transaction filter processor coupled to the vehicle detection correlation processor;

an end of a trip detection processor coupled to the transaction filter processor,

a start of a trip detection processor coupled to the transaction filter processor, and

a trip formation processor coupled to the transaction filter processor, the end of a trip detection processor, and the start of a trip detection processor.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the plurality of ~~gateway~~ gateways is adapted for an open ticket tolling system.

36. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the plurality of ~~gateway~~ gateways is adapted for a closed ticket tolling system.

37. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the plurality of ~~gateway~~ gateways is adapted for an open ticket enforcement system.

38. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the plurality of ~~gateway~~ gateways is adapted for a mixed open ticket, closed ticket tolling system.